

CONTINUING EDUCATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Evaluating the content, format and timing of the State Library's Continuing Education (CE) workshops will be the focus of a comprehensive statewide needs assessment. Sandra Nelson, author of *The New Planning for Results*, will conduct the assessment by working with library staff in the state's public libraries, community colleges, and four-year colleges and universities. The proposed needs assessment will help determine the future direction of the CE program, making sure that the State Library continues to offer learning opportunities that North Carolina library staff need to access technology and meet the needs of their users.

The process will include an analysis of the existing continuing education programs offered to library staff across the state. In addition, information will be gathered from various groups (e.g., library directors, the Master Trainers, the NC LIVE Training Advisory Committee, professional and paraprofessional library staff, etc.) through interviews, focus groups, written and online surveys, and telephone contacts. The final report will assist the State Library in developing plans for continuing education programs/activities beginning with FY 2007-2008. Sandra Nelson will present a summary of the final report at the North

Carolina Public Library Directors Association meeting in August. Questions, contact Raye Oldham, 919-807-7423; <rolldham@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.



CAREER ENRICHMENT GRANTS

The State Library is pleased to announce that applications for Cycle 3 of the 2006-07 Career Enrichment Grant program are now being accepted. The program, supported by federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) grant funds and endorsed by the LSTA Advisory Committee, provides funds for professional and paraprofessional library staff to attend pre-selected conferences. The conferences are grouped into three cycles (based on how they fall in the calendar year) with separate application deadlines for each cycle.

Cycle 3 includes the following conferences:

- Special Libraries Association Annual Conference (SLA), Denver, CO, 6/3-6/6, 2007
- American Library Association Annual Conference (ALA), Washington, DC, 6/21-6/27, 2007
- American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), New Orleans, LA, 7/14-7/17, 2007

Grant requests must be at least \$300 and may not exceed \$1,000, and a 10% match is required. First-time attendees will receive priority for funding. The total amount available for award in 2006-07 is \$75,000.

Additional information and the online application form for Cycle 3 are available at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/cegrant.htm>>.

Cycle 3 Timeline: The application deadline is April 16, 2007. All applicants will be notified whether or not they received a grant by May 1, 2007.

Questions? Please contact Beth Crist at 919-807-7417 or <bcrist@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

State Library of North Carolina
UPDATE

<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us>

March 2007

SUSTAINING TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES IN RURAL LIBRARIES

The State Library will sponsor workshops in five locations around the state on Rural Library Sustainability during the first two weeks in May. The workshops are part of the Rural Library Sustainability Project, funded through a grant by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in collaboration with WebJunction. These sessions will provide library staff with tools, information, and resources to help rural and small libraries sustain public access computing.

Who should attend?

The target audience is staff in library buildings in counties that are not metropolitan areas (as designated by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget) and those in buildings serving populations of less than 25,000; you may also consider inviting trustees or friends, as support and advocacy will be discussed. Lunch will be provided and support for travel to the workshops will be available.

Workshop participants will

- ✓ Brainstorm with colleagues to craft solutions for the challenges related to public access computing, including technology planning, budgeting for technology, technology support, training and more.
- ✓ Build an action plan for their library's future and learn how to receive support as they implement that plan.
- ✓ Learn about tools to help manage technology, train staff, and more...

Workshops will be held at the following locations:

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| May 1, 2007 | Wilson County Public Library, Wilson |
| May 2, 2007 | East Regional Library, Fayetteville (Cumberland County) |
| May 3, 2007 | Elizabeth Sewell Parker Memorial Library, Murfreesboro (Albemarle Regional Library System) |
| May 8, 2007 | Caldwell County Public Library, Lenoir |
| May 9, 2007 | Transylvania County Library, Brevard |

As an added bonus, three library staff who are registered workshop attendees and who have not previously been to an American Library Association (ALA) conference will be randomly selected to go to the ALA annual conference in Washington, DC (June 21-27, 2007) with all expenses paid by the Gates Foundation.

The deadline for registering is **Monday, April 9th**. The registration form is available at <<https://www.formrouter.net/forms@SLNC/rlsw.htm>>.

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Timothy Owens in Library Development (919-807-7424; <towens@library.dcr.state.nc.us>).

STAFF UPDATES

Debbie King recently joined the staff of the Library Development section. In addition to answering the State Library main phone lines, Debbie provides administrative support to the library consultants.

Angie Cox resigned her position as Library Development Office Assistant IV on February 9. Her hard work and dedication will be missed.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UPDATES

Master Trainer Program

A new class of 15 Master Trainers will graduate from the program on April 24, 2007.

Master Trainers continue to build their network through regional meetings, sharing of training designs, and collaborative support.

Total number of Master Trainers: 84
48 in public libraries, 32 in academic libraries, 4 in state agency libraries.

Continuing Education Opportunities

Check our online schedule for remaining workshops available this spring:
<<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ce/ceopps.htm>>

Watch for an announcement with new additions later in the season.



The State Library of North Carolina and North Carolina ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) are pleased to offer the 11th Digitization Institute, May 7-11, 2007, at the New Hanover County Public Library in Wilmington. This Institute is open to participants from all of North Carolina's cultural heritage institutions.

The theme of the Institute is collaboration. Throughout the week, collaboration between libraries and non-library institutions will be emphasized. The Institute will focus on project planning and sustainability. Participants will acquire the basic skills and information necessary to begin planning and implementing a digitization program for special collections, including the essentials of planning, basic scanning techniques, fundamental copyright issues, an introduction to metadata, and key issues in web design and online context for the presentation of digital content. Sessions will include presentations, discussions, hands-on work, and active learning. Participants will be provided with workshop materials and a copy of the NC ECHO Digitization Guidelines. For more information call Hilary Perez, Project Archivist, at 919-807-7418 or visit the website at <www.ncecho.org>.

BUILDING STRONG LIBRARIES TOGETHER!

Public library construction is alive and well in western North Carolina. South Rowan Regional Library in China Grove, Transylvania County Library in Brevard, and Polk County Public Library in Columbus are new facilities which were highlighted at the State Library sponsored NC Public Library Trustee conference, held in Asheville on March 18-20, 2007. The panel discussion, moderated by Ed Sheary, Director of the Buncombe County Public Libraries, presented a visual tour of each facility and answered questions on site selection, cost of construction and furnishings, and fundraising.



Ed Sheary(right), Buncombe County Library System, chats with his trustees.

In addition to the panel discussion the program included a presentation by Stephanie Vance, representing Advocacy Associates, who provided an overview of advocacy principles which apply to lobbying efforts on the local, state, and national level. Fleming Bell, a professor at the School of Government at UNC-CH, provided information to the trustees on the NC Open Meetings Law, conflict of interest, and confidentiality of library records. Anne Marie Elkins, State Library Consultant for Public Library Management, highlighted the roles and responsibilities of public library trustees and the relationship between the trustees and the library director and library staff. Mary Boone, State Librarian, closed the Trustee Conference with a motivational speech encouraging trustees and directors to become actively engaged in their communities.

Louise Humphrey, Director at Appalachian Regional Library, one of the twenty public directors who attended the LSTA funded conference with her library trustees shared the following comments. "I want to express my sincere thanks to you and your staff for sponsoring such a worthwhile workshop in Asheville. I and the ARL trustees who attended were so impressed with the topics, the depth in which they were covered, and the expertise of the presenters. The trustees were amazed at the things they need to know and the importance of their role in supporting the library. We all came away with renewed respect for each other's roles and a commitment to work together to make our libraries the best they can be. Thanks again for supporting the 'education' of library trustees and directors."



Jennifer Pratt(left) Haywood County Library Director and Martie Smith(right), Union County Public Library Director chat with a library trustee.



SUMMER READING

Over 400 library staff shared ideas on program delivery and design while networking with colleagues at this year's summer reading workshops. Three summer reading workshops were held in North Carolina coordinated by State Library staff and the 2007 Summer Reading Committee(s). Workshop attendees enthusiastically shared ideas to encourage children and teens to "get a clue." This summer, children and teens will be solving all sorts of mysteries through the Summer Reading Program developed by the Collaborative Summer Library Program.

READ. BE INSPIRED. WRITE BACK.

Over 1,614 North Carolina students participated in the Letters About Literature national reading and writing program. This program invites students to write a letter to an author explaining how that author's book made a difference in the student's life. Entries are submitted on three levels: Level I—grades 4-6; Level II—grades 7-8; Level III—grades 9-12. Sponsored by the National Center for the Book in partnership with Target Stores and with state affiliate centers for the book, the program had 55,000 entries nationwide. As soon as the North Carolina winners are notified their essays will be posted on the State Library's website <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ld/nccftb/cftb_yaac_lal.htm>. For more information contact Frannie Ashburn, <fashburn@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

NCLBPH BEGINS DIGITAL RECORDING!

Digital recording equipment and studio booths were installed and are now in use at the North Carolina Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NCLBPH). Information Technology Librarian Shaun Mason spearheaded the effort which began with much research and a successful LSTA federal grant proposal for this State Fiscal Year. Volunteer Coordinator Shawn Faircloth has been trained and is training volunteers on use of the new equipment. One of the new booths and monitoring stations is designed and placed to be completely wheelchair accessible. The NCLBPH in-house multiple cassette tape high-speed duplicators have been equipped to convert the digital recordings onto cassette tape formats for duplication. Production staff has been trained on this equipment. NCLBPH will continue to produce cassette tapes from the digital master recordings until the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped begins providing digital talking book players and digital talking books in Fall 2008.

FRIENDS MAKE GOOD VOLUNTEERS - VOLUNTEERS MAKE GOOD FRIENDS

Spring 2007 is the time to energize Friends Groups for their upcoming busy year of fundraisers and programs. Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries (FONCPL) Area Directors have organized special speakers and roundtable discussions for several locations throughout the state. Speakers will share constructive ideas about special events and successful Friends programs, and handouts on various topics will be available. The Pender County Library Friends hosted this year's first statewide Friends workshop and provided an interesting program on their collaboration with local artist Ivey Hayes (go to www.art.com and search on Ivey Hayes). Participants included Friends groups with memberships of 8 and others with more than 1000. Discussion was lively and everyone learned something from hearing about other Friends of the Library activities. See the schedule below for upcoming workshops. For more information contact Frannie Ashburn, <fashburn@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

WORKSHOPS AND LOCATIONS

March 31	Seagrove Public Library 530 Seagrove Plank Road, Seagrove
April 14	Leicester Branch Library 1561 Alexander Road, Leicester
April 21	Iredell County Library 201 North Tradd Street, Statesville